

THE PASSION HISTORY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

LESSON FOUR – MATTHEW 27:1-26

Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal 3-Year Lectionary, Year A
Evangelical Heritage Version TM

1 Early in the morning, all the chief priests and the elders of the people reached the decision to put Jesus to death. **2** They bound him, led him away, and handed him over to Pontius Pilate, the governor. **3** Then when Judas, who had betrayed him, saw that Jesus was condemned, he felt remorse. He brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders **4** and said, “I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.” But they said, “What is that to us? That’s your problem.” **5** He threw the pieces of silver into the temple and left. Then he went out and hanged himself. **6** The chief priests took the pieces of silver and said, “It is not lawful to put these into the treasury, since it is blood money.” **7** They reached a decision to buy the potter’s field with the money, as a burial place for foreigners. **8** So that field has been called The Field of Blood to this day. **9** Then what was spoken through Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled: They took the thirty pieces of silver, the price the sons of Israel had set for him, **10** and they gave them for the potter’s field, just as the Lord commanded me. **11** When Jesus stood in the presence of the governor, the governor asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus said to him, “It is as you say.” **12** When he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he answered nothing. **13** Then Pilate said to him, “Don’t you hear how many things they are testifying against you?” **14** But he did not answer him—not even one word, so that the governor was very surprised. **15** At the time of the Festival the governor had a custom to release to the crowd any one prisoner they wanted. **16** At that time they were holding a notorious prisoner named Barabbas. **17** So when they were assembled, Pilate said to them, “Which one do you

want me to release to you? Barabbas—or Jesus, who is called Christ?” **18** For Pilate knew that they had handed Jesus over to him because of envy. **19** While he was sitting on the judgment seat, Pilate’s wife sent him a message. “Have nothing to do with that righteous man,” she said, “since I have suffered many things today in a dream because of him.” **20** But the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus put to death. **21** The governor asked them, “Which of the two do you want me to release to you?” “Barabbas!” they said. **22** Pilate said to them, “Then what should I do with Jesus, who is called Christ?” They all said to him, “Crucify him!” **23** But the governor said, “Why? What has he done wrong?” But they kept shouting even louder: “Crucify him!” **24** When Pilate saw that he was accomplishing nothing and that instead it was turning into a riot, he took water, washed his hands in front of the crowd, and said, “I am innocent of this righteous man’s blood. It is your responsibility.” **25** And all the people answered, “Let his blood be on us and on our children!” **26** Then he released Barabbas to them, but he had Jesus flogged and handed him over to be crucified.